

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Noboru KOUMURA, et al.) : Examiner: Jermie E. Cozart
Application No.: 10/739,146) : Group Art Unit: 3726
Filed: December 19, 2003) : Notice of Allowance: November 6, 2006
For: METHOD OF RECYCLING PROCESS) : Confirmation No. 2542
CARTRIDGE : November 27, 2006

Mail Stop Issue Fee

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Comment on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Sir:

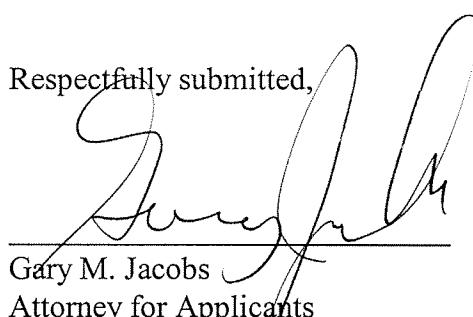
The Statement of Reasons for Allowance that accompanies the February 27, 2006

Notice of Allowance states, in part, that regarding "claim 5, the prior art does not teach or suggest crushing the process cartridge to such an extent that the structural form of the process cartridge is changed and so that a process cartridge container portion made of a resin material, and a charging roller, a cleaning blade, a development sleeve and a photosensitive drive of the process cartridge are disassembled, separating each component material of the container portion, the charging roller, the cleaning blade, the development sleeve and the photosensitive drum in combination with the other claimed limitations".

But Claim 5 does not recite crushing the process cartridge to such an extent that the structural form of the process cartridge is changed and so that a process cartridge container portion made of a resin material, and a charging roller, a cleaning blade, a development sleeve and a photosensitive *drive* of the process cartridge are disassembled. Nevertheless, Claim 5 is allowable for the unique combination of features recited therein.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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